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Journalists  
questions  
(orig under org 1)

1. The use of the word accredited in the Director's February 11 policy statement regarding employment of journalists by the CIA appears to have left open the possibility that certain categories of newsmen might be exempted and continue to be employed. What is your present policy regarding the employment of:

Free lance journalists

Stringers for news organizations in the United States

Foreign nationals working for American news organizations

2. At the time of the February 11 statement it was reported that there were approximately 50 journalists representing American news organizations still being employed by the CIA and that under the terms of the Feb. 11 statement only about half of these would be terminated.

3. What has happened?

4. Will the 25 continue to be employed?

5. Will American news executives be considered to be under the CIA prohibition?

6. In view of the fact that Director Colby issued a policy statement concerning employment of American journalists by the CIA in 1973 and employment continued, what assurance can American news organizations be given that the practice is now, in fact, ending?

7. Would the CIA be willing to inform news organizations involved of their personnel who have had affiliations with the CIA? Would they be willing to do so on an off the record basis?

8. The February 11 statement by Director Bush did not address itself to two major areas covered in the Church committee report. One was the use of journalistic "cover" by CIA agents and the other was the responsibility for domestic fallout from CIA information placed in foreign publications.
9. Did news organizations offer any resistance to their use by CIA agents (affording them credentials, entrees, etc.)? The Church report indicates that more than a dozen U.S. news organizations provided such cover for CIA personnel. Who was aware of this policy in the news organizations?
10. The CIA has taken the position that it is willing to accept the "inevitability" of domestic fallout from CIA placed information in foreign publications. Is the intelligence value derived from such practices weighed at all in terms of how it might compromise the accuracy of domestically disseminated information?
11. What steps will the CIA take to inform news organizations in the United States which foreign information services serve as CIA conduits?
12. In your conversations with American news organization representatives has the CIA discussed the necessity for issuance of policy statements on this subject by the news organizations? Was the point raised that disciplining employees, or establishment of prohibitions about employment by the CIA was a matter of concern for the news organizations rather than the agency?
13. Does the CIA make a clear distinction in its philosophy of employing journalists from the employment of representatives of any other U.S. organizations or institutions? What is the difference from the CIA's point of view?

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Org 1 NATIONAL News Council  
Journalists

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~~NRN questions~~  
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